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ACTION EA 19

INFO GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04, CIA 04,
DOD 01, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, SAL 01, AID 30, IO 21, EUR 25, NSAE 00,
RSR 01, /170 W

R 211100Z OCT 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9341
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 4647
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG 1170
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2827

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Lyon DATE 12/23/81
EO/CDC ☑ PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 9184

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: LOWR HOUSE ELECTIONS: THE DOVE SYMBOL IN GIA DINH

REF: SAIGON 8579

1. THERE ARE AT LEAST FIVE CANDIDATES FOR THE LOWER HOUSE IN GIA DINH I WHO ARE USING SOME VARIANT OF THE DOVE SYMBOL, AND PROBABLY AN EQUAL NUMBER IN GIA DINH II.

(1)

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(IN GIA DINH I, WHERE 6 SEATS ARE AT STAKE, THERE WERE AS OF OCTOBER 20 78 CANDIDATES STILL IN THE RACE: IN GIA DINH II, WITH 5 SEATS, THERE WERE 84 CONTENDERS). AN EXAMINATION OF THE CAMPAIGN PLATFORMS OF THESE "DOVE"

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CANDIDATES REVEALS THAT WHILE ALL OF THEM ARE FOR PEACE, THE FOCUS OF THESE CANDIDATES' APPEALS SEEMS TO BE A RATHER XENOPHOBIC CALL FOR PRESERVATION OF VIETNAMESE RIGHTS AND SOVEREIGNTY MORE THAN FOR "PEACE" ITSELF. A GREAT MANY CANDIDATES REFER IN SOME DEGREE TO THE NEED FOR VIETNAMESE TO SOLVE VIETNAMESE PROBLEMS, BUT THE "DOVES" APPEAR CONSIDERABLY MORE MILITANT IN THIS REGARD THAN THE AVERAGE.

2. A BRIEF SAMPLING OF THE MORE NATIONALISTIC CAMPAIGN SLOGANS OF IVE OF THESE CANDIDATES FOLLOWS:

"DETERMINED TO RESTORE NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY;"

"LET THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE HAVE THE RIGHT TO BRING AN END TO THE VIETNAMESE WAR;"

"DESTROY THE THREE GREAT MISFORTUNES: DICTATORSHIP, DIVISION, AND CORRUPTION;"

"THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE MUST HAVE A SECURE, PROSPEROUS,

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AND HAPPY LIFE, WITH FRATERNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE AND EQUALITY WITH OTHER NATIONS;"

"DESTROY THOSE FOREIGN INFLUENCES WHICH CAUSE DELINQUENCY IN OUR YOUTH;"

"RESTORE THE SPIRITUAL VALUES AND NATIONAL TRADITIONS; DEVELOP OUR NATURAL CUTLTURE;"

"REALIZE A COMPLETE REVOUTIONARY POLICY IN ORDER TO CHANGE THE SPRIUTUAL AND MATERIAL LIFE OF ALL PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY IN THE COUNTRYSIDE."

3. FOREGOING IS ANOTHER REFLECTION OF INCREASED VIETNAMESE ASSERTIVENESS WHICH HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY EVIDENT SINCE ELECTION PROCESS, WHICH HAS BEEN ACCOMPANIED

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BY MARKED INCREASE IN FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, BEGAN HERE LAST SUMMER. (SEE SAIGON 8579 FOR OUR MOST RECENT COMMENTARY ON THE GENERAL SUBJECT OF VIETNAMESE CONCERN OVER WHAT THEY BELIEVE TO BE INFRINGEMENT OF THEIR SOVEREIGNTY.) GP-3 BUNKER

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